APPENDIX

Vol. 32, No. 23 June 8, 1973

82nd MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH LIBRARIES
New Orleans, La., May 11-12, 1973

The 82nd meeting of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) was held on May 11-12, at the Fairmont Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans. President William S. Buddington of the John Crerar Library opened the first session with an address entitled "Coping With Change—The Challenge for Research Libraries." Noting the current changes in institutions and associations, he urged ARL members not to limit themselves to "coping" but to look ahead and "prepare" for change. He stressed that meaningful change is the result of significant professional thought.

Gustave A. Harrer, University of Florida, moderated a panel concerned with "Changing Technology: Machine-Readable Data Bases." James L. Carmon, Office of Computing Activities, University of Georgia, discussed library processing and use of data bases, surveyed the requirements of acquiring and handling tapes, and projected future use of large data bases, theorizing on the role libraries might play in that use. In comparing computer-readable data bases and their printed counterparts, he noted that "data bases are generally similar to their printed counterparts in terms of data content and represent basically a new access route to be used in conjunction with or in place of the corresponding printed publication." Mr. Carmon said that most large data bases presently available are serial publications. The data bases are updated periodically, as are the corresponding abstract or index publications.

Mr. Carmon predicted that library activity in the management of data bases will be limited. He said "the future use of these types of reference works will be through specialized information facilities, rather than local or regional libraries." The staff and computing facilities required to provide services on even a few of the broadest bibliographic data bases are beyond the resources of most libraries, he said. A centralized information facility, however, is feasible because of significant economic benefits in cost-sharing. Among the cost-sharing information facilities now in operation, Mr. Carmon noted, are the Federally-subsidized, on-line systems of Medline, Toxicon, and Recon; the National Agricultural Library is considering similar service on the CAIN data base.

Mr. Carmon said that the local library will be called upon to provide coordination between the user and the information facility, a role similar to libraries' traditional reference services. He said that it appears likely that libraries will play a more active role in assisting users with the new data bases.

The second paper was presented by Robin A. C. Fearn, Assistant Director for Systems, University of Florida Library, on the subject of data base management. Mr. Fearn identified two academic libraries providing "in-house" computer-readable capacity—the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Florida.

The University of Florida program entitled "Information for Campus, Community, and Commerce" (ICCC), was established in 1971. Its objective is to expand and improve the informational products and services of the University Libraries in such a manner as to make possible an active participation in the instructional, research, and service missions of the University of Florida and the State University System of Florida as a whole. Principal areas of research interest include: Library and Information Center Systems Analysis, Library and Information Center Automation, Book and Union Catalogs, Library and Information Center Development, Selective Dissemination and Alerting Services, Computer-Produced Retrospective Bibliographies, Utilization of Microforms, Communication Technology for Libraries and Information Centers, Computer Graphic and Map Displays of Information, Social, Economic, Business, and related Computer and Printed Data Base Services, Projections of Numeric Social, Economic, and Business Data Bases into the Future, and Information Transfer Policies.

Mr. Fearn closed his presentation by citing computer-readable data bases as a new and useful way to meet research library needs.

The third member of the panel, Malcom Ferguson, New England Board of Higher Education, described activity relating to the Northeast Academic Science Information Center (NASIC). The New England Board of Higher Education will develop and implement a cooperative science information center to serve the northeast region of the United States. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology will participate in the development of the proposed center and, under

subcontract to NEBHE, will provide computer system and software expertise for the project through the staff of the MIT Technical Information Program. This project will also be carried out with the cooperation of the Association of Research Libraries, the New England Research Application Center, the New England Regional Computing Program, and a representative group of colleges and universities in the region which will serve as demonstration sites.

Mr. Ferguson said the regional approach will produce the economies of scale necessary to reduce costs to the individuals served and the need for continuing service center subsidy; permit more services to be offered to a large multi-disciplined user community; provide the benefits of cost-sharing to the cooperating institutions involved; and be free from dependence upon the resources of any single university.

Following a brief intermission, John Beresford, President of DUA Labs., Inc., spoke on "Future Possibilities for Large Scale Data Base Use." He said that libraries should have a role in data base management and projected several roles for librarians. He described the research librarian's role in the use of large-scale data bases as providing technical assistance to the patron on the use of the computer, and cataloging, documenting, reviewing, and distributing of the patron's results. This role is now being played by a variety of organizations involved in the data file distribution process, he said.

Mr. Beresford also indicated that "the research librarian has new and important responsibilities associated with support of the users of machine-readable files. The execution of the responsibilities will require a regular method or technique for interaction with every data library having access to the same or similar files in order to know what work is being done elsewhere, by whom, with which files, what new files are being created, and at what grade of support. The data librarian must be prepared to define grades of support. For example, the highest grade would include machine-readable documentation with source definitions and include software for file use and experts available for consultation. The lowest grade (unsupported) would include only printed documentation with no acknowledged author."

Mr. Beresford concluded, "It is exciting, if not comforting, to realize that the difference between a strong society capable of meeting the demands of its environment and population, and a weak society disintegrating at the seams, may be found in the quality of the society's data library system."

David Weber, Stanford University, spoke briefly on the economics of computer-readable data base management and Charles H. Stevens, Executive Director, National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS), presented a brief status report. Mr. Stevens pointed out that NCLIS recently issued requests for proposals to consider financial problems of public libraries, continuing education, regional bibliographic and resource center concepts, community information centers, and current microform management and production concepts.

During the afternoon session Duane Webster, Office of University Library Management Studies, ARL, directed a panel on "The Management Review and Analysis Program." The panelists, Jim Brown, Iowa State University; Michael Buckland, Purdue University; and George Shipman, University of Tennessee, explained how the program operated in their libraries. They described it as a "set of guidelines for internal review of management practices" and as "a starting point for self evaluation." They did not view it as a full-scale planning effort, a detailed organizational study, a review of program services, an attempt to force a plan, nor a package of solutions. Library directors from Purdue University, Iowa State University, and the University of Tennessee commented on the program's effectiveness from their point of view and agreed that it was working.

Following a reception and dinner, the ARL group toured the Tulane University Library.

On Saturday morning, David Kaser, Cornell University, led a discussion on "The Association as an Agent for Change." He presented suggestions for ARL objective and role statements. Changes were recommended from the floor and a document will be presented for a vote at the 83rd ARL meeting.

At a discussion on the changing role of the university library director, Richard Dougherty, University of California, Berkeley, introduced Robert B. Downs, Dean of Library Administration, Emeritus University Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign, and Robert Vosper, University of California, Berkeley. Mr. Downs drew upon a paper prepared in cooperation with the late Arthur M. McAnally, University of Oklahoma. Mr. Downs said the role of the university library director, which has changed markedly in the last decade, has become a difficult one to serve. "Directors have been subjected to pressures from different quarters," he said, citing pressures from the president's office, library staff, faculty, and students. In addition, the director's status has fallen because of a declining ability to meet user needs, the lack of cohesive library planning, and

an institutional inability to accommodate change. Mr. Downs suggested that better planning, improved budgeting techniques, and the introduction of new organizational patterns would ease the problem.

James Farmer, Senior Researcher, National Commission on the Financing of Postsecondary Education, described the Commission's work. The Commission was established by Public Law 92-318 (Section 140) and appointed by Congress and the President to study the impact of past, present, and anticipated private, local, State, and Federal support for postsecondary education; the appropriate role of the States in support of higher education (including the application of State law upon postsecondary educational opportunities); alternative student assistance programs; and the potential Federal, State, and private participation in such programs. He discussed specific approaches and possible research library involvement.

Following a luncheon and a presentation by Dr. Herman Liebaers, Director of the Royal Library, Brussels, Belgium, the official ARL Business Meeting was held with William S. Buddington presiding.

ARL Commission reports were submitted. Douglas Bryant, Harvard University, cited the work of the Center for Chinese Research Materials and preservation activity as part of the Commission on Development of Resources Report. David Kaser, Chairman of the Commission on the Organization of Resources, reported that his group had worked on upgradable data bases and developed a questionnaire which will be distributed to all ARL members. Edward Latham, Dartmouth, announced that the Commission on Access to Resources has requested position papers on the use of collections by external scholars and commercial firms. James Haas, Columbia University, and Duane Webster reported that statistical data will be collected by the Commission on Management of Research Libraries.

The ARL membership approved the following resolution regarding gifts of manuscripts and papers:

> Whereas, manuscript collections constitute valuable historical materials which have long been preserved and made available for future generations by libraries, museums, and educational institutions, and
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> Whereas the Tax Reform Act of 1969 does not permit authors or creators of literary manuscripts, collections of papers, music, and artistic works to take tax deductions at the fair market value for gifts of these materials to libraries, museums, and educational institutions, and
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> Whereas this regulation has had the effect of greatly reducing or eliminating completely the donation of gifts of such materials to libraries, museums, and educational institutions: Therefore be it
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> Resolved that the Association of Research Libraries goes on record as requesting the Congress of the United States to amend the Tax Reform Act of 1969, in order to permit the same tax deductions for authors and creators of literary or artistic property as is accorded to other donors of these same materials.

A report by Stephen McCarthy, ARL Executive Director, concluded the 82nd meeting.

[*Frank Kurt Cylke*]